



**Pullman Parks & Recreation
Lawson Garden Committee
September 5, 2018, 3:30 pm
Pioneer Center, 240 SE Dexter St., Barley Room**

____ Karlene Beaumont ____ Mitch Chandler ____ Kim Keizur

____ Mick Nazerali ____ Vacant

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA
 - a. September 5, 2018
3. APPROVE MINUTES
 - a. December 6, 2017
4. ANNOUNCEMENTS
5. REPORTS
6. OLD BUSINESS
 - a. Garden House
7. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. Art Piece
 - b. Horticulturist Hire (Nina Ashmead)



Pullman Parks & Recreation Lawson Garden Committee MINUTES: December 6, 2017

Mitch Chandler called the regular meeting of the Lawson Garden Committee to order at 3:30 p.m., Barley Room, Pioneer Center, 240 SE Dexter St, Pullman, WA 99163. Others present were Kim Keizur, and Mick Nazerali. City of Pullman, Parks & Recreation employees Alan Davis, Park Manager, and Merlene Greenway, Administrative Assistant, were also present.

AGENDA/MINUTES:

- A. **MOTION:** Kim Keizur made a motion to adopt the agenda for the Regular Meeting of December 6, 2017. Mick Nazerali seconded. Passed unanimously.

MOTION: Mick Nazerali moved to accept the minutes for the October 4, 2017 meeting. Kim Keizur seconded. Passed unanimously.

REPORTS:

- A. Alan reported that the City of Pullman General Bonds Prop 1 and 2 passed. This will enable the city to move ahead with the Lawson Gardens "Garden House". The bond will provide \$800,000, and along with the Lodging Tax Grant of \$700,000 we have enough to move ahead with the project.
- a. Kevin Gardes, Public Works Director has already contacted Design West to continue with the design work on the Garden House, at an estimated cost of \$98,700. This will be continuing the design work that was submitted and approved by the committee in 2012.
- B. Alan also reported that Varnel Williams is retiring at the end of 2017. The position will be advertised and plans are to have it filled by March of 2018.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. None

NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT:

- A. **MOTION:** Kim Keizur made the motion to adjourn at 4:00 pm, Mick Nazerali seconded. Passed unanimously.

Mitch Chandler, Chairperson

Alan Davis, Park Manager

Possible donation of this sculpture for Lawson Gardens, by artist Harold Balazs



Harold Balazs was an American sculptor and artist whose work has been featured in [exhibits](#) and public art installations throughout the [Northwestern United States](#). He is known for creating large, [abstract](#) metal sculptures, but also created [murals](#), jewelry, furniture, drawings, stained glass and wooden boats.

Life

Balazs lived in [Mead, Washington](#) and referred to the studio in his barn as Mead Art Works.^[1] Balazs died on December 30, 2017.^[2]

He was born in 1928, in a small [Ohio](#) farming community during the [Depression Era](#). While his mother encouraged his interest in art, he honed his skills in his father's [sheet metal](#) and air conditioning business. He moved with his parents to [Spokane, Washington](#), and later majored in art at [Washington State University](#). It is there that he met his wife, Rosemary.

His first collaboration for commissioned work was a mural at [Ridpath Hotel](#) in Spokane, produced with Patrick Flammia in 1951. He became a leading liturgical artist, with sculpture,

painting, stained glass, and reliefs inside over 200 churches and synagogues in the Pacific Northwest, including a [bas relief](#) sculpture on the east facade of the First United Methodist Church in [Eugene, Oregon](#).^[3] Balazs served three terms as Washington State Arts Commissioner and helped draft the state's percent for art legislation.^[4]

Exhibits

The [Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture](#) in Spokane mounted a career retrospective of Balazs' works in 2010.^[5] His work is also exhibited at The Art Spirit Gallery of Fine Art in [Coeur d'Alene, Idaho](#) where his work has been displayed for 16 years. In September 2013, the gallery hosted "Harold Balazs: Alive at 85 & Mel McCuddin: Lately 80". Balazs has also shown with [Timothy C. Ely](#) in "Illuminating the Subconscious" in 2010.^[6]

He is a featured artist of Tinman Gallery in Spokane.^[7]

Public art

Balazs has contributed extensively to the downtown landscape of Spokane, with many of his works featured prominently in [Riverfront Park](#). Sculptures include the Rotary Riverfront Fountain, Centennial Sculpture, and *Untitled* (aka "'Lantern").^[8] Other works can be found throughout Spokane, including *Wildflowers of the Northwest*,^[9] a sculpture, *Canoe* at Lewis and Clark High School,^[10] and the facade of Hennessy Funeral Home.^[11]

In Idaho, several of Balazs' metal sculptures are installed on college campuses. Works installed at [North Idaho College](#), include *I Must Go Down to the Seas Again*^[12] and *Reflections*.^[13] Works at the [University of Idaho](#) include the Hartung Theater Sculpture^[14] and Theophilus Tower Sculpture.^[15]

Other works include *Seattle Project*,^[16] located at the [Henry M. Jackson Federal Building](#).

Several of his works have incorporated the phrase "Transcend the Bullshit".^[17] One sculpture that is untitled, but referred to as Lantern,^[18] has gained notoriety because one must climb to the top of the sculpture to view the hidden message.^[19] Climbing it, however, is illegal^[20] and potentially dangerous.